of Hon'ble Members consisting as they do of several faculties such as lawyers, doctors, etc. I submit these are the considerations that weighed with the Committee.

I may also bring to the notice of the Chair in this connection the existence of Standing Order No. 71, which may be revoked in appropriate cases. Standing Order No. 71 runs as follows :— "The President shall have power to regulate the conduct of business in the Council in all matters not provided for in this Regulation, the rules or the Standing Orders". The death of the Chairman having not been provided for and there is now a situation, before the Chair, which the Chair may regulate under S. O. 71.

President:— The substance of the point of order seems to be that the originally appointed Chairman did not function on account of his lamented death and another gentleman who was elected by the Committee signed the report as Chairman and that is irregular.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— There is some slight difference, Sir. What I want to stress is that the Committee that had written up this report is a Committee without a head. Its head was unfortunately removed from us. The Committee had appointed a Chairman only for a particular meeting.

President:— Therefore to put it in a nutshell the Committee that had reported is a Committee without a head. Anyhow the meeting which discussed this Bill and reported upon it had a chairman and when there is a chairman for that meeting the committee does not cease to exist because the originally nominated chairman died. Over and above all this I rely upon Standing Order No. 71 which says that the President shall have power to regulate the conduct of business in all matters not provided for in the Regulation, the rules or the Standing Orders. Of course, such a contingency as has happened now, has not been provided for in the Regulation and therefore the point of order raised is not in order.

Point of Order.

Re. the right of the House to consider the Bill as it relates to the Members of the Ruling Family.

Mr. K. Ayyappan :— Mr. President, Sir, I wish to raise another point of order. This measure ought to have come in the form of a Proclamation since it affects the Ruling Family.

President:— That being a very serious point of order, we shall take it up after lunch.

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The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and re-assembled at 3 p. m. with M. R. Ry., P. Krishna Menon Avl., in the Chair.

President :— Mr. Ayyappan, you were raising the point of order. You may continue.

Mr. K. Ayyappan :— The point of order is that it being a measure relating to the Royal Family cannot be considered here. This ought to have come in the form of a Proclamation. Even the very name is tabooed here under section 11 (a) of the Regulation.

President :— I shall like to hear the Hon'ble Law Member on the question.

Mr, Thomas Manjuran :— The only provision that may be considered to be relevant to the present enquiry is contained in section 11 (a) of the Legislative Council Regulation. That states :—

"It shall not be lawful for the Legislative Council to consider and enact any measure relating to or affecting the Ruling Family of Cochin." What we are now attempting to enact is some provision with regard to the motor-cars owned by the Members of the ruling family. The question is whether that is a measure relating to the ruling family of Cochin. There are two matters to be considered here, viz., whether the Ruling Family of Cochin should be considered as one united body and whether a measure like this is not intended to interfere with certain rights of individuals constituting that ruling family. Whether this comes within that provision, or not, of course, is for the Chair to rule.

Dr. A. R. Menon :— The provision is "to consider and enact any measure to or affecting the Ruling Family of Cochin". It affects none but relates to the Ruling Family.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran :— My contention is that all that is necessary for the point now at issue is contained in that section. It is for the Chair to decide whether the Ruling Family meant there is to be taken as a whole or also to cover the case of individuals.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar :— I think the Chair has simply asked you to say what you have to say.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran :— That I am doing now. There are two questions. One is whether the restriction with regard to the ruling family will cover the members of the Ruling Family individually on whose behalf this measure is introduced. If it does not cover, there is no taboo. Then we have to consider the question as to whether it is a measure relating to

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or affecting the members of the ruling family. It will affect them in the sense that they will be benefitted to a small extent financially. But whether that is the spirit of the rule, it is for the Chair to decide.

Dr. A. R. Menon :— It is a question that affects the Municipalities. That aspect also may be considered. I am more anxious about the Municipalities and under that pretext, it should be thrown out.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon :— Sir, when we, the loyal citizens of the State, oppose this Bill, we have to speak against the Princes. It is rather awkward.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon :— Exemption is to the Princes as Princes and not as individuals as stated by the Law Member.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran :— I didn't state that.

President :— Though in a sense the matter affects the Municipalities, in general I think that a correct ruling on the point has very important consequences and, as I find a distinction made in the Standing Orders and the Rules between the Ruling Family of Cochin on the one hand and the Maharaja or the other Members of the Ruling Family on the other, it cannot be said that there is no distinction between the terms "the Ruling Family" as ruling family and "the members constituting the family." Therefore, I want to take time to consider the matter and I shall give my ruling only to-morrow.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran :— Then this Bill may be attended to to-morrow.

President :— Yes.

The Cochin Trade Unions Bill.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran :— I rise to introduce "The Cochin Trade Unions Bill". The time available for the House consists precisely of something less than 2 hours to-day and 5 or 6 hours tomorrow. Besides most of these Bills are only in the preliminary stage and I am going to move the House that this one may be committed to a Select Committee. Therefore, I am not going to make any speech. With regard to the necessity, the Government have been satisfied that some such measure should be included in our Statute Book. I beg the leave of the House to introduce the Bill.

I move that the Bill be read in Council.

Mr. C. J. Mathew :— I second it.

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